

ERHS winter concert, p.7



DKFI certificates, p.7

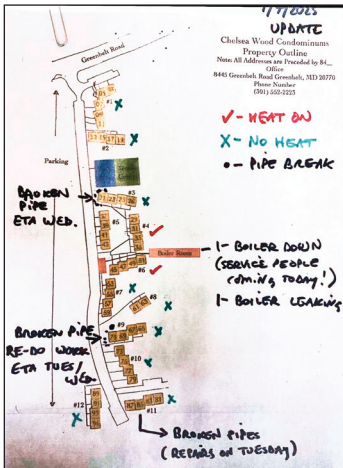
Many Chelsea Wood Condo Owners: Snow, But No Heat

by Erica Johns

Most Chelsea Wood condominium owners still didn't have heat as of Tuesday morning, January 7, after temperatures and snow fell over the weekend. There were 12 buildings with heat and 35 without heat, according to a map from Metropolis Condominium Management. At least three pipes were still being repaired and since last week a boiler stopped working. The boiler produces hot water for heating, which the pipes deliver to the complex, with 280 units in 47 residential buildings. The heat first failed in October 2024.

Repairs Scheduled

Resident Jocelyn Cox shared



This map of Chelsea Wood condominium buildings' heat and repair status was provided to residents on January 7 by Metropolis Condominium Management. Metropolis became the complex's management company on January 1.

with the News Review a January 7 email and map from Metropolis, which became the complex's management company on

See **HEAT**, page 8

Parkway Gardens Also without Heat

Residents at Parkway Gardens Apartments on Parkway in Greenbelt Center are also without heat. Residents Marayna Smith and Tyresa Simmons say the problem began several months ago with a broken boiler. Simmons said residents of the rental apartments knew city code enforcement staff had visited but were told no more by the apartments' property manager, Pinacle Property Group of Bethesda, which Simmons described as unresponsive.

Greenbelt City Councilmember Jenni Pompei said on January 3 that city code enforcement officials have given property managers until January 20 to devise a permanent solution, telling Pinacle the property's individual window units are inadequate because they blow fuses. After January 20 the city will begin levying fines, said Pompei. She added that city staff asked the property manager to keep residents updated, but since that didn't seem to happen, City Manager Josué Salmerón planned to ask staff to prepare a statement to inform residents of repair status.

Snow Blankets Greenbelt, Causes Closures, Brings Out Shovels, Sleds



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

The hill by Greenbelt Lake was busy, full of children enjoying the snow on Monday morning. See more snow photos on page 12.

Greenbelt experienced its largest snowfall since 2022, with the National Weather Service recording seven inches for the city. The snowstorm was anticipated, with Governor Wes Moore declaring a state of emergency on Sunday due to predictions of eight to 12 inches in some regions of the

What Goes On

Monday, January 13
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltnmd.gov for more information.

state. Greenbelt's Public Works Department readied its snow plows and salted roads ahead of the storm.

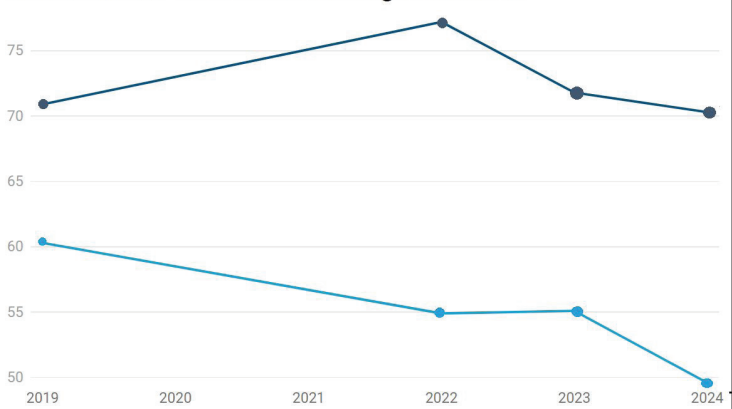
The anticipated snow began to fall steadily overnight into the early hours of Monday morning. Greenbelt residents reported totals of seven to eight inches by the time snow ended late Monday. The federal government, many businesses and in Greenbelt city

offices and facilities were closed Monday and Tuesday. Children enjoyed several snow days for Prince George's County Public Schools were closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. In spite of the frigid temperatures, kids and adults alike got outside to enjoy the unusual weather – playing, sledding, skiing or just shoveling the white stuff.

Report Card Shows Decline In ERHS Performance Scores

by Randy Chow

Recent MCAP Test Score Averages at ERHS



GRAPH BY RANDY CHOW. SOURCE: MARYLAND REPORT CARD

Eleanor Roosevelt High School students' recent ELA and Mathematics MCAP score averages: top line: percent proficient in ELA; bottom line: percent proficient in mathematics (data for academic years 2019-20 and 2020-21 unavailable)

The academic performance of students at Eleanor Roosevelt High School continues to fall in the 2023-24 academic year according to the 2024 Maryland School Report Card compiled by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

The Greenbelt magnet school met fewer annual targets, made no improvement in its statewide ranking and had one of its lowest "overall performance" scores in recent years, according to the MSDE. Statistics quoted apply to the school as a whole: the science and technology curriculum

and the general student body.

Pandemic Effects Linger

Jonathan Briggs, District 2 Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Board of Education member, whose district includes Greenbelt schools, said the recent scores concern him because challenges that already plagued teachers were exacerbated by the pandemic's virtual learning.

"A lot of the results that we're seeing now, out of 2022 to 2024, are going to be reflected from

See **ERHS**, page 7

Who Responds to Greenbelt Fire, EMS Calls: Latest Response Data

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Station 835 First Due Call Types & Response Times June 30 through December 28				
Call Type Category	Incident Responses 2023	Average Response Time 2023	Incident Responses 2024	Average Response Time 2024
Advanced Life Support	Total: 443	Average: 6:18	Total: 465	Average: 7:12
Basic Life Support	Total: 413	Average: 8:45	Total: 385	Average: 8:41
Fire	Total: 156	Average: 6:13	Total: 257	Average: 4:05
Non-Emergency	Total: 93	Average: 7:00	Total: 73	Average: 6:30
Rescue	Total: 868	Average: 3:37	Total: 875	Average: 4:36
Average Response Time for All Call Types: 5 minutes and 57 seconds				

Response time data provided by Chief Green on January 3, 2025

On January 3, Prince George's County Fire Chief Tiffany Green wrote to Greenbelt Mayor Emmett Jordan to provide updates on what she referred to as the "staffing reallocation plan." Since the removal of career firefighters on June 30, the staffing has previously been referred to as a "temporary staffing realloca-

tion" and "summer staffing plan." Green outlined changes in resources through which, perhaps most significantly, Greenbelt gained a full-time paramedic ambulance last month (see the December 12 issue). She also shared data on call times and who is responding to fire and emergency medical services (EMS) calls in

the Greenbelt area. One change that comes to light through the data is that while Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and EMS used to be the most frequent responder for what is Greenbelt Station's "First Due Area," responding to 38.3 percent of incidents, since the removal of career

See **FIRE DEPT.**, page 9

Letters to the Editor

Reacts to Traffic Calming Study

I read Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.'s (GPI's) Traffic Calming Study: Greenbelt Center City (July 2024) (Traffic Calming Study). Like "voter fraud," there's no evidence. To summarize the Traffic Calming Study, "City Council is hellbent to reduce the speed of every vehicle in Greenbelt, regardless of how it looks, whether it will work, whether it can be built or how much it will cost." Oh-for-four.

Some 48 crosswalks will be shortened (and associated lane widths reduced) by creating pinch points at every stop sign at every intersection GPI studied. If the pinch points are intended to reduce speed, why are they at stop signs?

Twenty-two intersections will be rebuilt using a mile of glowing Qwick Kurb – continuous curbs with big plastic reboundable bollards. I call this phase, "Bollardville." I don't know what current councilmembers think of Bollardville, but I have no doubt what Eleanor would think of it.

The Traffic Calming Study assumes Public Works will perform all the work. Who knew Public Works was so overstuffed.

Because GPI's six new speed bumps/raised crosswalks extend from curb-to-curb, they will provide habitat for migrating waterfowl whenever it rains. Two of the six will be 150-feet-apart on Hillside. For cyclists, riding this pool/bump/pool/bump on Hillside will be like steeplechase ... without the horse.

Reducing lane widths and turning radii, installing raised crosswalks will make life difficult for bus drivers, delivery-truck drivers and emergency responders. It seems only yesterday when council was concerned about that

last one.

Eliminating 24 on-street parking spaces will definitely reduce the number of collisions – fewer targets.

Permanently closing the right turn lane from Southway to Ridge will make a lot of people unhappy. Forced to queue up with people going to Crescent, I predict peak speeds on Ridge Road will increase, as some motorists try to make up for lost time.

Robert Nelson

Questions Ethnic Breakdown

In the DEI article in the December 26 paper the ethnic breakdown is both odd and inaccurate.* Instead of Black we have African Diaspora. Since Sub-Sahara is not specified, this includes the Arabs and Berbers of North Africa. I doubt either group thinks of themselves as African. Next we have white. This group does not even rate a capital letter. For consistency, it should be the British and European Diaspora. Then we have, not Latino, but colonized by Spain. This leaves out Brazil, which was colonized by Portugal, and includes the states of Texas and California. The Portuguese were as brutal as the Spaniards and surely the Brazilians should be included in this group. Do they mean to include all the residents of Texas and California? It would seem so.

Then we have other or unknown. These were people they were interviewing and presumably could be asked. Maybe they did not fit into their preconceived categories. And finally, we have Asian. At least they get a capital letter, but once again they should be the Asian Diaspora.

How were the interviewees selected? Was any attempt made to get a representative sample

of Greenbelters? From the age breakdown it appears that no one over 60 was included.

The group's focus seems to be entirely on racial discrimination, which is certainly a problem, but there is also religious discrimination, discrimination based on sexual orientation and discrimination against the disabled.

If this is how our DEI staff spend their time and our money, they should be replaced with staff who address the problem.

Mary Halford

**Editor's note: the ethnic categories were those used in the Phase II community audit itself.*

Staff Perspective

I think recent letters about Rodney Roberts miss the perspective of staff who run our city each day. Have you had a job where an executive routinely berated your team? It saddens me that Greenbelt residents have written to support treating city personnel with public insults and belittling. It hurts Greenbelt if city council cannot maintain civility and professionalism when working with city staff.

See **LETTERS**, page 11



- Izzy Parker, News Review, February 27, 2003

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887

Phone: 301-474-4131

editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com (stories, letters, photos)

ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com (ads)

business@greenbeltnewsreview.com (billing)

website: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

Presidents: Alfred M. Skolnik, 1959-1977, Elaine Skolnik, 1977-1985

Mary Lou Williamson, Editor

Anna Bedford-Dillow, Managing Editor

STAFF

Matt Arbach, Ann Bauman, Kathryn Beard, Anna Bedford-Dillow, Laura Bonkosky, Jerry Bonnell, Letty Bonnell, Alan Burt, Rasheeda Childress, Maurice Crawford, Deborah Daniel, Deanna Dawson, Christine Doran, Joan Estenson, Anne Gardner, Elizabeth Gardner, Jon Gardner, Jim Giese, Ian Gleason, Patrick Gleason, Angie Gordon, Carol Griffith, Kyla Hanington, Amy Hansen, Erik Hanson, Michael Hartman, Butch Hicks, Peggy Higgins, Donna Hoffmeister, Melanie Iversen, Erica Johns, Jeff Jones, Tom Jones, Jennifer Jurling, Lesley Kash, Elisabeth Kevorkian, Amina Khalifa, Michael Kusie, Sandra Lange, Amanda Larsen, Linda Lucas, Charlene MacAdams, Marc Manheimer, Anne Marigza, Cathie Meetre, Mary Moien, Diane Oberg, Julie Rapp, Peter Reppert, Joe Robbins, Sandy Rodgers, Ian Blackwell Rogers, Lois Rosado, Richard Roth, Bonnie Schrack, Pat Scully, Bonnie Seaton, René Sewell-Raysor, David Shapiro, Melissa Sites, Lola Skolnik, Susan Taylor, Beth Terry, Daniel Thies, Nancy Tolzman, Jeff Travis, Mary Lou Williamson, Ray Zammuto and Michael Zelif.

CIRCULATION Circulation Coordinator: circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com
HOA information at: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution

Published weekly since 1937 by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pat Scully, president; Diane Oberg, vice president; Deanna Dawson, secretary; Tom Jones, treasurer; Carol Griffith, Erica Johns and Sandy Rodgers

PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.



Greenbelt Cinema

129 Centerway

301-329-2034

www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members Always \$6.50!
Member kids are always FREE!

Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8

All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
JANUARY 10th - 16th

The Last Showgirl (R) (CC)
(DVS) (2025) (86 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

Fri. 5:15 PM, 7:45 PM

Sun. 2:15 PM (OC), 5:15 PM

Wed. 7:00 PM

Thurs. 5:15 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Sat. 5:15 PM, 7:45 PM

Mon. 2:15 PM, 5:15 PM

Tues. 7:00 PM

A Complete Unknown (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2024) (140 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

Sat. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM

Mon. 2:00 PM (OC), 5:00 PM

Tues. 6:45 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Fri. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM

Sun. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM

Wed. 6:45 PM

Thurs. 7:30 PM

Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown (R)

(1988) (95 mins)

Cult Classic

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

Thurs. 8:00 PM

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

The Last Showgirl

The Last Showgirl, a poignant film of resilience, rhinestones and feathers, stars Pamela Anderson as Shelley, a glamorous showgirl who must plan for her future when her show abruptly closes after a 30-year run. Says critic Peter Travers of ABC News, "Gia Coppola's film has barely a sketch of a plot, but soars on the quietly devastating performance of former Baywatch babe Pamela Anderson as an aging Vegas showgirl."

A Complete Unknown

New York, 1961. Against the backdrop of a vibrant music scene and tumultuous cultural upheaval, Bob Dylan (Timothée Chalamet), an enigmatic 19-year-old from Minnesota, arrives with his guitar and revolutionary talent, destined to change the course of American music. He forges intimate relationships with music icons of Greenwich Village on his meteoric rise, culminating in a groundbreaking and controversial performance that reverberates worldwide. Chalamet stars and sings as Bob Dylan in the electric true story behind the rise of one of the most iconic singer-songwriters in history. Said critic Sam Adams of Slate, "A Complete Unknown is a fine movie about Bob Dylan ... but it's a better movie about the people who watched him do it, the die-hard believers who saw him as their greatest hope, then their greatest adversary."

Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown

When Pepa Marcos' (Carmen Maura) lover Ivan (Fernando Guillén) suddenly leaves her without any explanation, she embarks on a strange journey to discover why. On the way she meets a variety of eccentric characters, including Ivan's son from a previous relationship (Antonio Banderas), his fiancée Marissa (Rossy de Palma) and a Shiite terrorist cell which has been secretly holding her best friend Candela (María Barranco) hostage. It's a film noir take on romantic comedy.

Obituaries

Willard Davis



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Willard Davis

Willard Kenneth Davis of Greenbelt died on Thursday, December 26, 2024. He is survived by children Will Jr. (Kathy), Michael (Lorraine) and Angela Davis and stepdaughter Christy (Gary) Cupp; brother David (Mary Jo), sister Lois (Victor) Kirk and brother-in-law Patrick Moore; 10 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; three nieces; and two nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father Willard A. Davis; mother Dorothy C. Davis; sister Teresa A. Moore; and grandparents David A. Davis, Rose B. Davis and Alma Campbell.

Friends may visit at Beall Funeral Home, 6512 NW Crain Hwy. (Rte. 3 South) in Bowie on Sunday, January 19 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Peggy Rooney



PHOTO COURTESY MARY ANN TRETLER

Peggy Rooney, left, with one of her students, Samara Njoku

Peggy A. Rooney, 90, of La Plata, formerly of Greenbelt, died on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at the University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center in La Plata.

Born on March 12, 1934, in Washington, D.C., she was the daughter of the late Walter Platt and Margaret (Davis) Crall.

Peggy Rooney wrote her memoir, inspirational books, novels, two biographical books, a

book of humor and a book of poetry. She also wrote music and lyrics and sang and played the guitar. Until her retirement, she was the secretary to the late Cardinal James Hickey of the Archdiocese of Washington. Peggy belonged to the Greenbelt Writers Group as well as a Bible group. Peggy was a longtime active parishioner at St. Hugh of Grenoble in Greenbelt and an author of many spiritual books. She had a real gift for reaching the hearts of young people in the religious education classes she taught at St. Hugh's.

In addition to her parents, Peggy was preceded in death by her brother Michael Crall.

She is survived by her husband David; her children Kathleen Quimby, Debra Lyndon, John Rooney and Joseph Rooney; her grandchildren Jessica, Regina, Seth, Rebecca, Shayne, Noah, Shaun, Noah and Joseph; her great-grandchildren Thomas, Sam, Cooper, Nathan, Nicholas, Ashton, Aria, Matias, Kilani, Gavin and Dylan; aunt Joyce Morris; and other relatives and friends.

A Memorial Mass will be held at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church. The service has not yet been scheduled; daughter Kathy Quimby will announce when it will take place. Interment will take place at the Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 13801 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Peggy's name may be made to St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church, 135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Public Works were out in full force clearing the snow both during and after the snow-storm.



Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.



PHOTO BY JOELLEN SARFF



Our condolences to the family and friends of Peggy Rooney. A memorial service will be held at St. Hugh, date to be announced.

Our sympathies also to the many family members and friends of Willard Davis who died on December 26.

Congratulations to Greenbelt artists Rachel Ann Cross, Mary Gawlik, Celestine Ranney-Howes and Racquel Keller, whose artwork will be on display in the House Office Building in Annapolis for the 2025 legislative season.

Many heartfelt thanks to Public Works staff for their hard work in making the streets and sidewalks safe for us in the snow storm.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
COME TO OUR NEW LOCATION
Community Center Room 114
15 Crescent Rd
ALL ARE WELCOME!

A Roman Catholic
Intentional Eucharistic
Community

OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
CCG1985+owner@groups.io

“Delight not yourselves in the things of the world and its vain ornaments, neither set your hopes on them. Let your reliance be on the remembrance of God, the Most Exalted, the Most Great.” – Bahá’u’lláh



Greenbelt Bahá’í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

The Bible Says...

For You, God, have been my stronghold
and a refuge in the day of my distress.
Psalm 59:16b



Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School
(66 Ridge Rd.)
MCFcc.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church



Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



January 12, 2025 at 3:00 pm
Forward Into Light

Anthony Jenkins with Worship Associate Lula Beatty

In the spirit of our January theme (Equity), we'll share a service centered in the continuing struggle to gain and maintain equal rights for women. Post-election (and post-Dobbs), we'll explore both the patriarchal darkness of sexism and the resilient light of forward-moving resistance.

Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD

Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered
Biblical
& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD
www.greenbeltbaptist.org



Greenbelt Community Church

One Hillside Road

We are an
Open and Affirming
Church



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Join Us Sunday

10:15 AM

for Worship
and Church School

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.
Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org





City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.



GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING

Monday, January 13 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order
Roll Call
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Petitions and Requests
Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- Award of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award for FY2025 Budget
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Proclamation
- National Blood Donor Month Proclamation
- Pepco Presentation
- Public Hearing - To Amend Section 32 "Vacancies on Council"

To Change the Procedure for Filling Vacancies on the Council by Following Procedures in Newly Enacted Section 8-14 of Chapter 8 of the City Code

* Minutes

Administrative Reports

* Committee Reports

* Advisory Planning Board Report #2024-05: Bureau of Engraving and Printing Off-Site Roadway Improvements - Preliminary Review

LEGISLATION

- An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Greenbelt Amending Chapter 8 "Elections" of the City Code to Add § 8-14 "Vacancies On Council" To Implement Procedures for Filling of Vacancies on the Council Relative to the Next Regular Election, And to Provide the Voters of the City to Participate in the Process; *2nd Reading, Adoption*

- Charter Amendment Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt to Amend §32 "Vacancies on Council" To Change the Procedure for Filling Vacancies on the Council by Following Procedures in Newly Enacted § 8-14 Of Chapter 8 of the City Code; *2nd Reading, Adoption*

-An Ordinance to Repeal and Replace Chapter 2, Article IV Ethics Provisions of the Greenbelt City Code

- A Resolution to Approve a Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Greenbelt and Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 32 Effective July 1, 2025; *1st Reading, Suspension of the Rules; 2nd Reading, Adoption*

OTHER BUSINESS

- Preliminary Review of Bureau of Engraving and Printing Off-Site Roadway Improvements
- Approval of Proposed Trail Reroutes/Closures in Forest Preserve
- Council Activities
- Council Reports

* Meetings

* Stakeholders

* Resignation/Appointment to Advisory Board

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

This agenda is subject to change. For the most up-to-date agenda, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV or call (301) 474-8000.

MEETINGS FOR JANUARY 13-17

Wednesday, January 15, **NO MEETING**

Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30 pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD**, On the Agenda: Approval of Agenda/Minutes, Council Liaison Updates, Introduction: John Mason, Economic Development Manager, Discussion: Strategic Wayfinding Plan Sign Design Concepts, Updates

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

JOIN THE CHARTER REVIEW TASKFORCE

Are you passionate about shaping the future of our city? Do you want to have a say in how our local government operates? Now is your chance to make a difference!

The City of Greenbelt is forming a Charter Review Task Force to evaluate and recommend changes to our city's charter. We are looking for dedicated residents who are eager to contribute their time and expertise to this important process.

Submit an application at the following link: <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/boards-committees/application-for-appointment-to-boards-and-committees>. Scheduling interviews for February 3 at 7:30 pm.

For more information or to apply, please contact City Clerk at banderson@greenbeltmd.gov or (301) 474-3870.

OUT OF HARMS WAY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 AT 7PM

Registration Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8027883382980836699>.

Please contact Brendy Maddox at (240) 424-0302 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

UPCOMING PRODUCE DISTRIBUTIONS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, FEBRUARY 20, MARCH 20

Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Lower Parking Lot: 1 - 3 pm, while supplies last. Open to all Greenbelt residents. **Must have a registration card** via Brendy Garcia Maddox at (240) 424-0302 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center: Registration required. For Greenbelt West residents only. Register via email bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

PROPOSED COUNCIL VACANCY PROCESS

The proposed Council Vacancy Process legislation will be introduced for a first reading on **December 9**. A public hearing on the proposed Council Vacancy Process will be held on **January 13, 2025**.

The Greenbelt Board of Elections has proposed two options for the Council to consider in the event of a vacancy on City Council. If "Option 1" is chosen, legislation will need to be drafted to amend the Election Code. Alternatively, if "Option 2" is selected, legislation will need to be drafted to amend the City Charter. Both options will follow the proposed timeline for filling the vacancy as follows:

1. VACANCY OCCURS (REASON: DEATH, RESIGNATION, INCAPACITY, OR FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE):

- Determine the timing of the vacancy in relation to the next election

2. MORE THAN 180 DAYS BEFORE NEXT ELECTION:

Special Mail-in Election:

- Candidates must file nomination papers.
- Ballots are mailed to voters.
- Voters have 30 days to respond.

3. BETWEEN 60 AND 180 DAYS BEFORE NEXT ELECTION:

Council Majority Vote:

- Seat filled by majority vote after a public hearing.

4. Within 60 Days of Next Election:

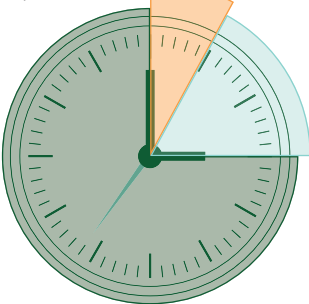
Council Discretion:

- The seat may remain vacant or may be filled at the Council's discretion.

5. SIMULTANEOUS VACANCIES:

- If three or more vacancies occur simultaneously, a special election is required.

Two (2) Year City Election Cycle Clock



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/elections

OR scan the QR code below



PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FIRE/EMS SUMMER STAFFING PLAN FOR GREENBELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Greenbelt, MD - The City of Greenbelt is disappointed in the County's decision to reassign 24 career personnel from Greenbelt Station 835 on July 1, resulting in the removal of all career personnel from our Station. County Fire Chief Tiffany Green and County leadership ordered the redeployment of 55 career firefighters from Berwyn Heights, Greenbelt, Bunker Hill, and Bowie Station. We are gravely concerned with the impact in response times of emergencies in Greenbelt and our surrounding areas.

Greenbelt will continue to work in tandem with College Park and Berwyn Heights alongside County leadership in addressing our concerns and fighting for the City of Greenbelt.

WHO CAN I CONTACT?

Office of the County Executive
countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-4131

Office of the County Fire Chief
tdgreen@co.pg.md.us
(301) 883-5200

At-Large County Council Member Hawkins
At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-2195

County Council Member District 4
councildistrict4@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-3094

Letters of Support to keep/return career staffing to Greenbelt Station 835 can be sent to:

City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 or council@greenbeltmd.gov.

AGING SOLO

6-week program that will have speakers and group discussions.

To register, (240) 424-0302.

COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Trees**, **Senior Citizens Advisory Committee**, the **Youth Advisory Committee**, or the **Advisory Committee on Education**, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, or the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

RECOGNITION GROUP APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN

Fiscal Year 2026 Recognition Group applications and policy guide are now available on the City website at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/recreation-parks/recognition-groups-applications>.

Applications are due by close of business Monday February 3, 2025.

Please call Cathryn Pracht at (240) 542-2196 with any questions.

CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION!

Your discarded Christmas tree can be recycled. Public Works will pickup trees at locations listed below or online. Please insure all ornaments and lights are removed. Drop off your trees for recycling at specified areas up until **February 7, 2025**.

GHI

- Ridge Road, 73 Court (opposite playground)
- Plateau Place and Ridge Road (corner on playground side)
- Research Road and Hillside Road (corner)
- Ridge Road, 44 Court (Area near playground)
- Eastway & Crescent Road (corner)
- Ridge Road, 21 Court (across from Green Ridge House)
- Crescent Road and Ridge Road (playground at junction)
- Parkway (corner across from 58 Court Crescent Road)
- Parkway (corner across from Community Church)
- Southway, 7 Court (playground at Little League field)
- Ridge Road, 11 Court and 13 Court (area between courts)

BOXWOOD

- Ivy Lane and Lastner Lane (playground)

Lakewood

- Greenhill Road & Crescent Road (by Baptist Church)

CHARLESTOWNE VILLAGE AND CHARLESTOWNE NORTH

- Property adjacent to Attic Park

UNIVERSITY SQUARE

- In front of swimming pool

LAKE SIDE NORTH

- Near Swimming pool

SPRINGHILL LAKE

- Field past 9294 Edmonston

GREENBRIAR

- Between buildings 7708 & 7710
- Between buildings 7728 & 7730
- Between buildings 7826 & 7828
- Between buildings 8003 & 8009

GLEN OAKS

- Between buildings 7903 & 7905
- Between buildings 7509 & 7511

HUNTING RIDGE

- Between buildings 6936 & 6978

WINDSOR GREEN

- At court entrances, picked up by Windsor Green staff

GREENBROOK VILLAGE AND ESTATES

- Southeast corner of Ora Glen Dr & Matthew Dr
- Southeast corner of Hanover Parkway and Greenbrook Drive
- In front of barricade - Mandan Road & Matthew St

GREENWOOD VILLAGE

- Opposite 8175 Mandan
- Opposite 7646 Mandan
- Opposite 7648 Mandan

GREENSPRING AND GREENSPRING II

- Southwest corner of Megan Lane & Craddock Rd
- Park area between 7926 & 8006 Greenbury Dr
- Corner of Spring Manor Drive & Springshire Way
- Open area between 6519 & 6515 Springcrest Dr

BELLE POINT

- Corner of Vanity Fair Dr. & Prince James Way
- Open area between 7800 & 7801 Vanity Fair Dr.
- Open area beside 7962 Vanity Fair Drive

GREENBELT VILLAGE

- Open area between 6729 & 6715 Village Park Dr
- Open area across from 6632 Lake Park Drive
- Open area across from 6510 & 6512 Lake Park Dr

GREENBELT STATION

- Central Park field along Stream Bank Lane



Remembering Greenbelters Who Died in 2023-2024

Compiled by Elisabeth Kevorkian

Keith Allen Bair, 74, July 29, 2024
Gary Barbour, 79, October 1, 2024
Paul Ashton Beavers, 49, February 4, 2024
Sharron Lee Beck, 84, February 5, 2024
Belinda Kaye Birdsong, 71, December 16, 2024
Mark Thomas Blue, 60, January 2, 2024
James Clifford “Cliff” Bordas, 71, May 30, 2024
Debra Boylan, 72, June 8, 2024
David “Dave” Christopher Brinks, 74, June 27, 2024
Dana Britton, 64, August 9, 2024
Pamela A. Brown, 75, May 3, 2024
Bob Cassels, 74, December 15, 2024
Marie Catherine Christy, 94, April 1, 2024
Jonathan David Cohen, 60, May 8, 2024
Theresa “Pidge” Crowley, 86, October 26, 2024
Lillian Mae Dambraskas, 92, May 26, 2024
Leslie Davies-Hilliard, 70, June 23, 2024
Willard Kenneth Davis, 72, December 26, 2024
Dennis Kevan Dill, 64, January 26, 2024
James “Jimmy” Edward Dobbin, 76, March 13, 2024
Stephen E. Donn, 74, November 1, 2024
Linda Edwards, 81, March 30, 2024
Betty Jo Edwards, 68, December 8, 2024
Mame Ellis, 102, June 3, 2024
Elaine Weisel Eubanks, 81, October 3, 2024
Mary Louise “Lou” Fisher, 81, May 4, 2024
L. Ben “Pappy” Guiffre, 89, April 30, 2024
John W. Hall Sr., 78, October 27, 2024
Robert “Bob” Hawk Sr., 87, March 5, 2024
Barbara Lee Stratton Hess, 76, October 14, 2023*
Kathleen “Kathy” Susan Hurtt, 69, October, 2024
Harry “Hank” Gerald Irving, 79, March 3, 2024
Lisa Danielle Jellison, 67, December 25, 2023*
Sue Marie Johnson, 76, December 19, 2023*
Eugenia Kalnay, 81, August 13, 2024
Marc “Kap” Kapastin, 78, June 29, 2024
Jerriann Weber King, 89, May 19, 2024
Bruce Douglas Kuhl, 79, December 15, 2023*
Joyce Lorraine Bates Mangum, 95, June 5, 2024
George William “Bill” Marshall, Sr., 90, May 20, 2024
Aphrodite Theoni Matsakis, 76, March 17, 2024
Frederick Anthony “Tony” McCarthy, 81, September 12, 2024
Robert Donald McNally, 83, July 10, 2024
Rachel Mertz, 101, June 8, 2024
Regina “Gina” K. Murphy, 62, November 12, 2024
Billy “Bill” David Norwood, 84, November 7, 2024
Robin Wendell Olson, 71, March 5, 2024
Wanda Ann Opsasnick, 91, May 26, 2024
Wendy Bennett Osborne, 84, May 5, 2024
Jeffery Lawrence Patterson, 60, August 11, 2024
Barbara Ann Payne, 82, June 23, 2024
Thomas Joseph “Tom” Payne, 76, September 20, 2024
Mark Wayne Price, 62, September 28, 2024
Alanna Marie Rall, 24, April 7, 2024
Esther Robinson, February 23, 2024
Peggy A. Rooney, 90, December 18, 2024
John Albert Schaffer, 88, September 10, 2024
Constance “Connie” Nadine Thomas Schwan, 81, June 12, 2024
Lee Barron Shields, 86, December 2, 2023
Bonnie Lou McCaw Shields, 86, March 11, 2024
Jane Smidinger, 87, October 20, 2024
Dorothy “Dottie” Anne Spivacke, 85, August 23, 2024
Louvain C. Townsend, October 20, 2024
John Ward, 80, April 26, 2024
Maura Caughey Warner, 33, July 20, 2024
Ralph E. Webb, Ph.D., 83, July 25, 2024
Muriel “Micki” Pearl Weidenfeld, 91, October 8, 2024
Helen Emily White, 88, March 5, 2024
Juanita Wilmer, June, 2024

*Not included in last year’s list

Animal Shelter Anticipates Resuming All Services Soon

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Since July 2024, Greenbelt’s animal shelter has faced a staffing shortage but, says Greenbelt’s Deputy Chief of Police Timothy White, residents’ calls for animal services have continued to be met during that time.

Staffing Shortage

At the end of July 2024 the city’s shelter was reduced to one full-time and one part-time staff member and the part-time member only continued a couple of weeks, reports White. Due to the seven-days-a-week nature of caring for animals, the city decided they had to cut the responsibilities in order to make it manageable, White told the News Review. Without the capability to take in more animals, they prioritized caring for the ones they had, some of which may need to be kept for months if they are part of a pending court case. White said the city’s shelter continued to house animals during that time.

County Partnership

Greenbelt’s police and animal control officers have continued to respond to dispatch calls, but to meet the needs of some types of calls – particularly animals needing to be housed – the city has partnered with Prince George’s County Animal Control, explained White. He said there was not a loss in service, but a change in who responded. “The city has a very good relationship with Prince George’s County Animal Control, so we work well in coordination with them,” said White. Though the county’s animal shelter has been at critical capacity for much of the last six months, they were able to take in the animals Greenbelt’s shelter could not.

Staffing Strides

Over the last six months Greenbelt has brought on a new animal supervisor and has recently hired a new full-time staff person, bringing the full-time staff count to three. They are now updating their standard operating procedures. White says the city is hopeful they will be back to full capability and once again responding to all calls for service by the beginning of February, if not sooner. The shelter building itself has been and is currently in use.

Plans for the Building

As noted in the December 19 issue, the projected cost to replace the shelter’s building

had more than doubled, from \$180,000 to \$400,000. Thus, the city will perform renovations on the current building rather than replacing it. Funds for the renovations were just approved at the end of the year, said White, who noted that American Rescue Plan Act funds would be utilized for the work.

One of the significant renovations is the replacement of the HVAC system. A second major renovation will require kennels, furniture and other items to be removed from the building while

the flooring is replaced, explained White; thus, the building will have to be closed at some point. He said there’s significant damage to the structure of the floor and the subfloor, necessitating their replacement. In the operation of the shelter, flooring needs to be scrubbed, cleaned and hosed, so the new flooring will be carefully waterproofed to prevent future damage. The replacement of the flooring will likely begin when the weather is warmer, said White.

Geese Found Dead At Lake; Tested Negative for Avian Flu

by Anna Bedford-Dillow



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Geese gather on the partially frozen lake on Tuesday, January 7.

On the morning of December 30, four geese were found dead at Greenbelt Lake, confirmed Deputy Chief of Police Tim White. Animal Services took possession of the geese and sent them to be tested for avian influenza (bird flu), for which they were found to be negative. It’s unknown what killed the geese, said White, but the city was asked to report deceased geese to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The bodies of two additional dead geese had been recovered as of January 3, said White.

Separately, a resident told the News Review they encountered a dead goose at the Lake on Sunday, January 5.

If residents encounter dead birds, they should call the city or police department, who can arrange for Animal Services to go out to collect the birds and notify DNR, said White.

DNR has confirmed that dead geese were also recently found at neighboring Lake Artemesia but White was not aware of whether or not those deaths were related to avian flu.

Though Greenbelt has not had any reported cases, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that the H5 bird flu is widespread in wild birds. Several cases have been reported in Maryland in recent years, none on the CDC’s website for Prince George’s County since 2023 (though there are many months between collection dates and detection dates). On January 7, the situation summary on the CDC’s website reported there have been 66 reported human cases in the United States. In addition to birds, there is an ongoing, multi-state outbreak among dairy herds (cattle), reports the CDC, though there have been no reported cases in cattle in Maryland.



Need to Sell Your Home FAST?
Working closely with an experienced Real Estate Agent will help make the process go smoother. I will sell your home in 30-Days or pay you \$1,000!



1 WILL SELL YOUR HOME IN 30-DAYS OR PAY YOU \$1,000!



H. Dwayne Taylor MD & DC REALTOR



H. DWAYNE TAYLOR
REAL ESTATE

H. Dwayne Taylor, REALTOR
HdwayneTaylor68@Gmail.com

Mobile: (301) 323-8384
Office: (301) 459-5040
6301 Ivy Lane
Suite 805
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Seller Representative Specialist (SRS)
Real Estate Negotiation Expert (RENE)
Pricing Strategy Advisor (PSA)
Accredited Buyer's Representative (ABR)

BENNETT
REALTY SOLUTIONS

Simplifying Real Estate and Maximizing Outcomes For Our Clients



BITE OFF MORE THAN YOU CAN CHEW?

Don't be silly, call Lilly!
(240) 332-0603



GET \$50 OFF YOUR NEXT SERVICE!

LILLY
ELECTRIC

School News

132 DKFI Students Receive DELF Certificates in Ceremony



Dora Kennedy French Immersion School students receive their DELF certificates (A1 certificates above and A2 certificates below).

- Photos by Charles Rones



On December 2, students from Dora Kennedy French Immersion School (DKFI) were among those celebrated for earning the Diplôme d'études en langue française (DEL F) in a ceremony jointly hosted by the Prince George's County Public Schools Immersion Programs Office, the Embassy of France in Washington, D.C., and the Maryland State Department of Education.

Eighty DKFI students achieved the A1 level DELF, which, according to a statement from DKFI Principal James Spence, demonstrates foundational knowledge of the French language and competence in basic French skills. Fifty-two students achieved the A2 level DELF, which, states Spence, assesses more complex language skills. All students were assessed across four domains:

writing, speaking, reading and listening. The exams were administered last school year on behalf of France's Ministry of Education.

The diplomas reflect the students' commitment to mastering a second language and embracing cultural diversity, says Spence. He described the role of immersion programs as vital in "fostering bilingualism and preparing students for a globalized world."

ERHS continued from page 1

those instructional gaps that were in place because of the pandemic," Briggs said.

Maryland Comparisons

Roosevelt remained in the 58th percentile among Maryland public high schools in the 2023-24 academic year. This is tied with the previous academic year for the school's lowest percentile rank in the last five years, according to the MSDE.

In academic year 2021-22, the department reported Roosevelt was in the 72nd percentile, thus showing the significance of the later drops. Data for academic years 2019-20 and 2020-21 – which overlap with the pandemic – were not available.

News Review requests for comment from Roosevelt Principal Portia Barnes and four representatives from PGCP S received no response.

Testing at Roosevelt

The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) assesses third through eighth grade and 10th-grade students in mathematics and English to track their progress toward proficiency.

The school's 10th-grade students scored 49.6 percent in the MCAP mathematics proficiency tests and 70.3 percent in English language arts tests in the 2023-2024 academic year. Both were lower than scores during the prior

five years.

Heather Seyler, who primarily teaches English at Roosevelt, said preparing students for the English exam is challenging. "There are very few [practice tests]," Seyler said. "When I seek support at the county level or at the state level for practice tests and ways to prepare students for [the exams], those resources have been lacking."

For Patrick Gleason, also an English teacher at Roosevelt, keeping students' attention is an issue.

"A big challenge right now is ... navigating student attention spans," Gleason said. He also pointed to the teacher staffing shortage, which has been an issue since before the pandemic started, especially in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Seyler also remarked that replacing a teacher who leaves mid-year is really difficult. "We've had vacancies that have taken time to fill, and that impacts students as well," she said.

Toward Improvement

PGCP S is taking a number of actions to address its issues. PGCP S made a significant investment in its communications with parents, Briggs noted. He listed the district's social media posts, emails, listserv, newsletters and text messages as various methods the district uses to keep parents informed. "When we have families that are engaged in schools ... that is something that helps to provide wraparound supports for students because teachers have strong relationships with parents,"

See ERHS, page 11

ERHS Holds Winter Concert

by Dan Celdran

The music department at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) presented its annual Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 11 to a full auditorium. The symphonic band led by Cullen Waller performed a medley of holiday favorites in A Christmas Festival by Leroy Anderson. Robert W. Smith's African Holy Night followed, with varied percussion such as bongos, bells and the xylophone. Last Christmas ended the set.

The Concert Band, made up mostly of freshmen, performed Celebrate the Season by Matt Conaway. Listeners noted the melody of Joy to the World "taken through a flurry of styles and sounds that build to an exhilarating conclusion to ring in the holidays with a flourish" (from jwpepper.com). The musicians concluded with Dreidel Adventure by Scott Watson.

The Chamber Choir, conducted by Dr. Janna Ryon and accompanied on piano by Harmony Yang, performed Winter Song celebrating winter friendship, made famous by Sarah Bareilles and Ingrid Michaelson. The choir sang Baby, It's Cold Outside, written by Frank Loesser in 1944. The choir's females donned their red Santa hats to sing the holiday staple, Santa Baby.

The Gospel Choir presented Mary, Did You Know? – a song that asks if Jesus' mother could grasp the power that her newborn held, performed alongside students from the American Sign Language program who expertly

signed along. Their version included a beatboxer, adding the sound of drum machines. Rockin' Jerusalem, by Andre Thomas, began with soft voices of the men that continually rose to an incredible finish. The Concert and Chamber Choir collaborated on Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.

The Symphony and Chamber Orchestra, conducted by David Yarbrough, played Tchaikovsky's waltz from Sleeping Beauty, as well as Evening Prayer, the duet from Engelbert Humperdinck's opera Hansel and Gretel (1893). Fantasia Española by Soon Hee Newbold, in which instruments were plucked and bowed, concluded their program. These pieces had been part of a tour program in which student musicians performed for elementary and middle school students promoting music and the arts. Unfortunately, due to scheduling, the tour program has ended.

Many students in the science and technology magnet program are unable to take classes in the arts after their sophomore year at ERHS because of magnet program and graduation requirements. Yarbrough and colleagues pointed out that research has shown that students who get experience in the arts during their high school years are positively affected in their learning and abstract thinking. Those wishing can help advocate for the arts at ERHS by working with the PTSA (erhsptsa.org/info) or by attending county school board meetings.



The ERHS symphony and chamber orchestra is directed by David Yarbrough.



The ERHS chamber choir

- Photos by JoEllen Sarff



McCARL
DENTAL GROUP

WWW.MCCARLDENTAL.COM

Computer Guided Dental Implants

EASIER, SAFER AND MORE ACCURATE IMPLANT
PLACEMENT FOR OUR DENTAL PATIENTS.

OVER 700 5-STAR REVIEWS!
INFECTION CONTROL CERTIFIED

Greenbelt 301.474.4144 | Shipley's Choice Medical Park 410.987.8800

Dr. Jay McCarl, Dr. Dianna Lee, Dr. Clayton McCarl, and Dr. Richard Duarte are licensed general dentists.

PGFD EMS Changes: What Do They Mean for Greenbelt?

by Erica Johns

On December 29, 2024, Prince George’s County Fire Department (PGFD) moved the 24/7 Northern Emergency Medical Services Duty Officer (NEMSDO) position from the Bunker Hill Station near the District of Columbia line to Greenbelt and added a 24/7 paramedic ambulance to Greenbelt, staffing the ambulance with career EMTs and paramedics working overtime (see the December 12 issue). The ambulance is expected to benefit Greenbelters more directly than the NEMSDO, though both will benefit the northern Prince George’s County area that includes Greenbelt.

NEMSDO

PGFD Fire Chief Tiffany Green and Public Information Director Alan Doubleday described the NEMSDO as a supervisory role that coordinates daily EMS operations. Doubleday said moving the NEMSDO to Greenbelt is intended to enhance Advanced Life Support (ALS) capabilities and improve patient transfer times to hospitals. He said the NEMSDO is critical to managing ALS and Basic Life Support (BLS) resources in northern Prince George’s County.

Doubleday said the role is much broader than supervision. He said EMSDOs monitor call volume and hospital load, manage hospital transport destinations and liaise with hospitals, act as EMS supervisor on high-profile incidents, conduct quality assurance and training for EMS providers, distribute narcotic medications and manage EMS supplies and equipment. They use their senior experience to advise EMS staff on patient care.

Do EMSDOs Provide Patient Care?

Doubleday and Green said EMSDOs are ALS-certified paramedics who respond in a vehicle equipped for ALS care (but not transport). Doubleday said they routinely respond to incidents that first responders discover need a paramedic or second paramedic, and can respond to any incident where they believe they are needed, including incidents that are



PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

The response vehicle of the Prince George's Fire Department's Northern Emergency Medical Services Duty Officer (NEMSDO) is seen at Greenbelt Fire Station on January 4. The 24/7 NEMSDO position coordinates EMS operations in northern Prince George's County. PGFD moved the NEMSDO from Bunker Hill station to Greenbelt on December 29.

high-priority or involve children or cardiac arrest. He said they normally act as a primary ALS provider only if no other ALS provider is available, or if they are the ALS provider closest to high-priority calls including cardiac arrest, trauma, entrapment, fire or mass casualties.

The NEMSDO move to Greenbelt may have little effect on Greenbelt response times, because of their responsibility across northern Prince George’s County, though they support EMS staff working in or near Greenbelt. Doubleday said there is a NEMSDO on duty 24/7, with one person assigned to each of four 24-hour shifts. The NEMSDO is one of three on-duty EMS supervisors within the county, including the Southern EMSDO and the countywide senior EMS duty officer.

Greenbelt Ambulance Services

The larger benefit to Greenbelt is adding the 24/7 paramedic ambulance effective December 29, staffed with overtime personnel. A paramedic ambulance has

an EMT and a paramedic and provides ALS care and hospital transport. Before December 29, Greenbelt had only ALS peak demand ambulances with career overtime staffing from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., one of which will remain – meaning that the city will have two ambulances during that time period, and one from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

This is the first 24/7 EMS coverage at Greenbelt since June 2024. Since then a man who had to wait eight-minutes from the time of a 911 call died and a 3-year-old child struck by a vehicle experienced a 13-minute response time, according to residents on the scene. The new ambulance may be regularly dispatched outside Greenbelt when it is the appropriate unit closest to a call.

Continued Critical Understaffing

The summer staffing reallocation that removed Greenbelt, Bunker Hill, Berwyn Heights and Bowie-Belair stations’ career staff reduced the burden on personnel and the costs of mandatory overtime. However, severe staffing gaps continue to impact service, overtime costs and nearby county fire departments who respond when PGFD can’t.

The December changes, in addition to Greenbelt, included the onboarding of 34 new recruits, moving a peak demand type ambulance to Bowie-Northview and returning some career staff to Bunker Hill and Laurel Station 810, based on EMS demands on Bunker Hill and Laurel. Increasing Laurel staffing addresses north county demands, responds to nearby counties who told PGFD it needs to figure out its staffing and enables Beltsville to

See EMS, page 11

HEAT continued from page 1

January 1. The information indicated plans to replace one pipe beginning Tuesday, January 7, and others beginning Wednesday, January 8. Service personnel were expected to arrive Tuesday, January 7, to begin addressing the boiler. When resident Jessica Fomalont bought her unit in 2005, she was told the HVAC system was installed in 1965.

Addressing the heating situation is complicated by condo owners lacking renters’ rights, their individual homeowner’s insurance not applying to shared infrastructure and delinquent owners’ condo fees not being contributed to shared maintenance.

No Help From Officials

Cox said she spoke with Maryland State Senator Alonzo Washington on December 30, who told her he would look into the situation; she also contacted Governor Wes Moore’s office. She said there has been no response from either.

Cox shared with the News Review her emails to elected officials and county staff in search of help for her community. Her correspondents include Washington; County Councilmember Eric Olson; Delegates Anne Healey, Ashanti Martinez and Nicole Williams; staff from the Prince George’s County Office of Community Relations/Common Ownership Communities and Greenbelt City Manager Josué Salmerón. Chelsea Wood has a Greenbelt zip code but is not in the city limits, instead lying in an unincorporated area with no municipal support.

Warming Centers Unavailable

Olson replied on January 2 that county agencies told him that the American Red Cross cannot help in this situation. He was told the county’s Office of Emergency Management is “continuing to brainstorm.” Olson’s email included a map of county warming centers, which can be found at tinyurl.com/2pvw923b. When the News Review attempted to

contact four warming centers on January 7, they were closed because county facilities were closed during the January 6 and 7 snow emergency. The map includes county libraries, which close on holidays and during county school weather closings, including January 1, 6, and 7.

Cox contacted county and state officials again January 7. She updated them on the pipe and boiler status, and said she was still waiting to hear from Office of Community Relations/Common Ownership Communities staff on their communication with county attorneys for possible action. She asked Olson if the Office of Emergency Management was still brainstorming, and if county or state resources could aid the heating system repairs.

Cold Continues

Weather forecasts through the weekend include temperatures from the low 20s to mid 30s, winds up to 25 miles per hour, and another winter storm possible on Saturday, January 11.



**ANACOSTIA TRAILS
HERITAGE AREA, INC.**

Explore the History, Culture, Arts and
Nature of Prince George's County!

Curated routes and trail maps:
anacostiatrials.org

NEW LISTINGS!

73D Ridge Road

3 BD | 1 BA \$225,000
A roomy, beautifully designed deck and landscaped back yard is one of our favorite things about this peaceful, well-maintained co-op townhome.

11Q Ridge Road

3 BD | 1.5 BA \$385,000
Beautifully updated and meticulously cared for Greenbelt co-op home with a half bath on 1st floor!

Kim Kash
Realtor®
m 301.789.6294
kim.kash@compass.com

COMPASS

2025 RESOLUTIONS? GREENBELT CO-OP IS HERE FOR YOU

Something for Everyone!

121 Centerway, Greenbelt • www.greenbelt.coop

fresh & healthy smoothies

stay organized in style

local & organic produce

zero alcohol sparkling drinks

go meatless in 2025

save money with Co-op Deals

Sip Into the New Year!

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

11 AM - 1 PM

**SAMPLE HEALTHY DRINKS
FROM SOME OF OUR
FAVORITE VENDORS**

**JOIN US FOR A TASTY &
FRESH START TO 2025**

Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred December 30, 2024 - January 5, 2025. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported two domestic incidents, three mental health diversions, two involving attempted suicide and one involving an overdose. Two missing person cases were resolved. On January 1 near 9011 Breezewood Terrace, a tree fell and damaged a vehicle.

Welfare Checks

On January 4 at 4:48 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, officers responded to the report of a lost child. The boy said he was new to the area and got lost but had his guardian's phone number. She was called and picked him up.

On January 4 at 5:26 p.m. near 550 Crescent Road, officers observed two juveniles outside in the cold, shaking. They were taken to the station to warm up, and a parent was contacted to pick them up. The parent explained that the children were supposed to wait at a specific location, which they did not do.

Assault

On January 1 at 12:12 a.m. near 9111 Springhill Lane, a man swinging a sword charged at a group of people lighting fireworks for New Year's. A woman was cut on her forearm, and the man was arrested and charged with assault.

Disorderly

On December 30 at 5:13 p.m. near 6203 Springhill Drive, two people were involved in a dispute, and one reportedly damaged the other's vehicle, leaving a small scratch of less than two inches.

Suspicious Person

On January 3 at 11:30 p.m. near 7900 Good Luck Road, a man wearing black clothing and a black face mask entered a store. The store employee said he saw the man's left hand holding a black-handled handgun inside his coat pocket. When the man saw the employee staring at his pocket, he left the store.

DUI Arrests

On January 4 at 12:53 a.m. near 9111 Springhill Lane, a Jeep struck two vehicles and a trailer before stopping on the sidewalk and blocking a one-way entrance. The driver was on the ground, unable to stand. He displayed multiple signs of impairment and was arrested for DUI. He also

had a warrant for assault and was taken to the Department of Corrections in Upper Marlboro.

On January 4 at 3:30 p.m. near 5707 Cherrywood Lane, a vehicle struck a post. The driver stated he had been drinking earlier and was willing to submit to sobriety testing. He showed signs of impairment and was arrested for DUI.

Traffic Stop with Arrest

On January 2 at 10:24 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a vehicle failed to stop at a stop sign; the driver had an open warrant from the Maryland State Police, and was arrested and taken to the Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

Fraud

On December 31 near 7845 Jacobs Drive, a fraudulent utility account appeared on a credit report.

Theft and Shoplifting

On December 31 at 11:47 a.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a woman stole items and drove off in a gray Hyundai.

On January 3 at 3:40 p.m. near 11 Crescent Road, a cell-phone was missing from a desk after a meeting.

On January 4 at 6:27 p.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a man and woman stole several items and fled.

On January 5 at 10:41 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a man took merchandise from the shelves and exited without paying.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

Two vehicles were stolen: on December 31 near 6968 Hanover Parkway, a green 2007 Jeep Cherokee (Va. TES2097), and on January 2 near 7801 Mandan Road, a silver 2018 Infinity Q60 (Md. 9EW8927).

Stolen Vehicles Recovered

On January 2 near 6224 Greenbelt Road, officers located a vehicle reported stolen by the Berwyn Heights Police Department. The vehicle had only minor damage.

On January 2 near 9005 Breezewood Terrace, officers approached a Hyundai driving erratically, and four juveniles fled from the car. The ignition was damaged, indicating that the vehicle had been stolen.

On January 4 near 6305 Ivy Lane, a friend refused to return a 2014 black Dodge Charger after an argument, and the car was reported as stolen, then recovered. The driver had an open warrant and was arrested and taken to the Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

Theft from Auto

Windows were broken and items stolen: on December 30 near 6207 Springhill Court, work tools from a 2008 Toyota Tundra; January 2 near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a book bag from a 2019 Infiniti QX50, and near 6000 Greenbelt Road, items from a 2022 Jeep.

On December 30 near 6202 Breezewood Drive, several items were stolen from a vehicle; near 5809 Cherrywood Lane, all four wheels and tires were stolen from a 2019 Toyota Camry.

On December 31 near 9005 Breezewood Terrace, a suitcase was stolen from an unlocked vehicle; near 7501 Greenway Center Drive, tags were stolen from a Ford work van.

Vandalism to Auto

Vehicle windows were broken December 30 near 7200 Hanover Drive, and on a 2017 Honda near 5800 Cherrywood Terrace.

Man Hits Intervener With Metal Chair

The Greenbelt Police Department is seeking information about a man involved in a first-degree assault around 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 4, at the Greenbelt Deli in Beltway Plaza. The man was involved in a verbal argument with an employee of the deli when the victim intervened. The man then struck the victim in the head with a metal chair before fleeing on foot toward Berwyn Heights.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Fernandez at 240-532-9399 or ifernandez@greenbeltmd.gov.



FIRE DEPT. continued from page 1

staff the station is now able to respond to only 2.7 percent of Greenbelt area calls. The Prince George's County Fire and EMS Department (PGFD) remains critically short-staffed, wrote Green, but is identifying and addressing resource gaps.

Greenbelt Resources

Green notes that beginning December 29, the Northern EMS Duty Officer is located at Greenbelt station. Additionally, at Greenbelt station, Paramedic Ambulance 858 is staffed 24/7 with overtime personnel and Ambulance 899 is staffed with overtime personnel from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. (See article on page 8 for more).

Berwyn Heights Resources

Beginning December 18, 2024, a surge engine was also placed at the Berwyn Heights station on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, staffed with overtime personnel for 12 hours daily, wrote Green. PGFD began deploying fire suppression resources to Berwyn Heights on an as-needed basis on October 13, 2024. "Between Sunday, October 13, 2024, through December 28, 2024, the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc., has requested county fire suppression crews a total of 31 times," stated Green.

Response Times

According to Green's letter, for the period between June 30 and December 28, the average response time in Greenbelt for all call types is 5 minutes 57 seconds. Advanced Life Support response time during that period has increased from 6 minutes 18 seconds in 2023 (443 incident responses) to 7 minutes 12 seconds (465 responses). Basic Life Support response times, according to Green, have very slightly decreased from an average of 8 minutes 45 seconds during that period in 2023 (413 incident responses) to an average of 8 minutes 41 seconds (385 incident responses). Average response times for fire calls according to Green have decreased from 6 minutes 13 seconds (156 responses) to 4 minutes and 5 seconds (257 responses) and non-emergency calls have decreased from 7 minutes (93 responses) to 6 minutes 30 seconds (73 responses) according to the letter. Finally, response times to rescue calls increased

from an average of 3 minutes 37 seconds (across 868 responses) to 4 minutes 36 seconds (across 875 incident responses). These response times are calculated from the time of dispatch, which is when an engine accepts the call, not the time of a 911 call.

Who Responds

Green also provided data showing who responded to calls for fire and emergency services in Greenbelt's area. In 2023, for the period of June 30 to December 28, Greenbelt's fire department responded to 788 calls which amounted to 38.3 percent of calls. In 2024, following the removal of the career firefighters, from June 30 to December 28, Greenbelt's station responded to just 2.7 percent of the area's calls, for a total of 58. Thus in 2023, Greenbelt was providing the majority of responses by far and Berwyn Heights was the second most frequent responder, taking 19.9 percent of calls, or 409 during that six-month period. In the same period for 2024 Berwyn Heights became the greatest responder to Greenbelt's incidents, responding 569 times, which made up 26.2 percent of calls. Perhaps most surprisingly, National Harbor Station was among the top five responders to Greenbelt since June 30, 2024, though it responded to no Greenbelt calls in the same 2023 period. The most frequent responders since the staffing reallocation are: Berwyn Heights (26.2 percent), West Lanham Hills Volunteer Fire Department (18.3 percent), College Park Volunteer Fire Department (8.5 percent), Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department (8.4 percent) and National Harbor Station (7.9 percent).



LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW

Visually impaired may listen for free
Call Metropolitan
Washington Ear
301-681-6636

No special equipment needed





COMING
SOON
\$250,000

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, January 18 & Sunday January 19, from 1-3pm
7808 Lakecrest Drive, Greenbelt, MD 20770



Isabella Carolina
REALTOR®
Cell 240.338.4847 / Office 301.850.0255
helloworld@bella4homes.com / www.Bella4Homes.com



Cell 240.338.4847 / Office 301.850.0255
helloworld@bella4homes.com / www.Bella4Homes.com



LifeNet Healthcare Services, Inc.
A HOME HEALTHCARE AGENCY
NO MINIMUM HOURS REQUIRED
301-798-5678
FOR SENIORS, YOUNG ADULTS & PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED
LifeNet's REGISTERED NURSE ON CALL 24/7
OUR CAREGIVERS ARE FINGERPRINTED & BACKGROUND CHECKED



WE ACCEPT
MEDICAID
PRIVATE PAY
& LONG-TERM
INSURANCE
Call today for a FREE
In-home Consultation



WE SPECIALIZE IN PERSONAL & COMPANIONSHIP CARE
FOR PEOPLE WITH STROKE, DEMENTIA, ALZHEIMER'S, MULTIPLE
SCLEROSIS, PARKINSON'S, VISION IMPAIRED-Call Today for Service
WE ASSIST WITH BATHING, LAUNDRY, DRESSING, MEAL PREPARATION, TOILETING,
HOUSEKEEPING, MEDICATION REMINDER, WALKING, RESPITE CARE, ESCORT TO
DR'S APPOINTMENTS, PICK UP MEDICATIONS, INCONTINENT CARE, THERAPEUTIC
EXERCISE, MEMORY STIMULATING ACTIVITIES, 24/7 LIVE IN CARE, & MUCH MORE
We Are Local, & We Serve All Counties in Maryland

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

MERCHANDISE

STAIRLIFT – Acorn model 130, straight, right side of full height staircase. Was in an Old Greenbelt townhome. \$1,100 OBO. Call or Text Peter, 301-655-1236.

NOTICE

ERICA JOHNSON welcomes baby girl Charm at 38° 52' 38" N / 76° 49' 57" W. 8lbs and 1oz, on Nov. 19th, 2024 9:26 p.m.

SERVICES

HOUSECLEANING – Over 20 years in Greenbelt area. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or one-time cleaning offered. Local references and free estimates available. Debbie, 301-523-9884.

KELLAHER MAINTENANCE ENGINEERING, LLC – Junk removal, electrical, painting, drywall, leaf removal, landscape design, mulching flower beds, bucket truck services, stump grinding, pruning trees & removal, pole lighting, power washing siding & decks. Mulch & top soil delivery. Dkellaher@hotmail.com, 301-318-5472. Insured. Visa, MasterCard, Discover. www.Kellahermaintenance.com.

COMPUTERS, WIFI, PRINTERS – Documents Printing: Pickup, Dropoff, Training, Installing, Repairing, Troubleshooting. JBS, 240-601-4163.

PIANO TUNING – Greenbelt local. Comprehensive piano tuning, service, and restoration. 831-247-0043 www.WhitehousePiano.com.

CUSTOM FLOORING, LLC – Installing all flooring products. Specializing in refinishing hardwood. Starting \$3.50 per sq. ft. Call Now 301-844-8897, www.customflooringllc.net.

HANDYMAN DAVE – Paint, woodwork, exterior house cleaning, bath, kitchens, floor, more. 443-404-0449.

CARING KIM'S PET CARE – Drop-in visits, boarding and walks. Mornings, Noon, Evenings and Nights, seven days a week. By a lifetime animal lover and caregiver. Offered for dogs, cats, and other small animals. Call Kim at 301-520-6708 for appointment or with any questions.

MISSY'S DECORATING – Serving Greenbelt for over 30 years. Interior painting. Free estimates. MHIC #26409. Insured. Call Missy, 301-345-7273.

HOUSE CLEANING – I have Greenbelt references, a new vacuum cleaner and cleaning supplies; Melody Dodson, 301-256-6937.

HEATING AND COOLING – We specialize in installing Mitsubishi ductless heat pump systems in Greenbelt Homes. Call Mike at H & C Heating & Cooling, 301-953-2113. Licensed and insured since 1969.

ANGELA'S HOUSE CLEANING AND PAINTING – Cleaning your home like my own, at reasonable prices. Painting inside and out. References available in Greenbelt. Ten years' professional experience. AngelaLazo1@hotmail.com; 240-645-5140.

LICENSED MASTER ELECTRICIAN – Will do all repairs and new installations. 20+ years' experience. Call Desmond 301-346-5335.

LEW'S CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY – Free estimates, fabric samples, local business for over 30 years. Call Missy, 301-345-7273.

YARD/MOVING SALES

ESTATE SALE – for the home of Dorothea Leslie, Antiques and housewares. Cash only. 56-E Crescent Rd., Greenbelt. Saturday, 1/11/25 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Continental Movers

Free boxes
Local – Long Distance
\$80 x two men
\$100 x three men
301-340-0602
202-438-1489
www.continentalmovers.net



GREENBELT SERVICE CENTER

Auto Repairs & Road Service

A.S.E. Certified Technicians
Maryland State Inspections

161 CENTERWAY
GREENBELT, MD
301-474-8348

RATES

CLASSIFIED: \$4.00 minimum for 15 words. \$1 for each 1-5 additional words. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 6 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 5 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

BOXED: \$10.90/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$16.35). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

AD DESK: 301-474-4131 or ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

CROWLEY CONSTRUCTION, INC.
Commercial & Residential
ROOFING SPECIALISTS

NEW ROOFS ♦ REROOFS ♦ REPAIR ♦ MAINTENANCE
EMERGENCY REPAIR SERVICE AVAILABLE 24/7

ASK ABOUT OUR OTHER SERVICES
SKYLIGHTS | GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS | SIDING | WINDOWS
CHIMNEYS | BRICK WORK | HARDSCAPING

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE
(410) 643-3779 OR (301) 345-1349

www.crowleycoroofing.com
M.H.I.C License #90063



GASCH'S
Funeral Home, P.A.

4739 Baltimore Avenue
Hyattsville, MD 20781

301-927-6100
www.gaschs.com

Family Owned and Operated
since 1858

- Traditional Funerals
- Memorial Services
- Cremations
- Flowers
- Caskets, Vaults, Urns
- Pre-Arrangements
- Large on-site parking



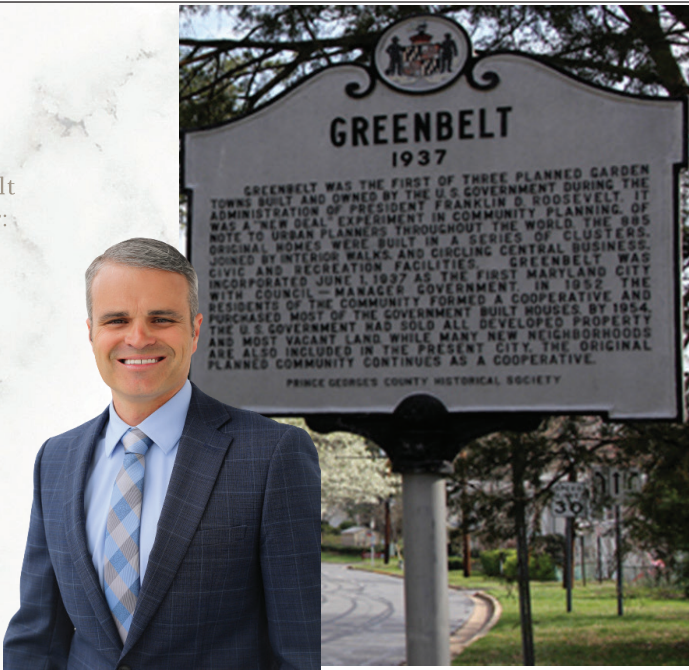
NCB has been financing at Greenbelt Homes for over 40 years. We offer:

- Fixed Rate Mortgages
- Competitive Financing
- Low Closing Costs
- Cooperative Expertise

G. RYAN GREER
Senior Vice President
(202) 349-7455
rgreer@ncb.coop

www.ncb.coop/rgreer
NMLS #507534

Banking products and services provided by National Cooperative Bank, N.A. Member FDIC. NCB NMLS #422343



Greenbelt Auto & Truck Repair Inc.



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

159 Centerway Road
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
301-982-2582



www.greenbeltautoandtruckrepair.com
A.S.E.
Master Certified Technicians

A complete service facility equipped to perform all service requirements that your manufacturer recommends to comply with Preventive Maintenance service schedules & extended warranty programs! Also, routine repairs that keep your vehicles operating safely and reliably.

Auto-body, collision repairs and theft recovery damage
A.S.E. Certified Technicians,
Insurance Claims Welcome.
Free estimates, please call for appointment

SPRING IS NEAR
Lets Spring into Action

DON'T LET THE SNOW FOOL YOU—SPRING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

TOWN CENTER REALTY IS HERE TO GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE MARKET AND PREPARE YOU FOR WHAT'S TO COME.
WHETHER YOU'RE READY TO BUY OR SELL,
DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE.

CALL US TODAY AT 301-441-1071 OR VISIT
WWW.TOWNCENTERMD.COM TO FIND YOUR DREAM HOME!!

TOWNCENTER
Realty & Associates, Inc.

301-441-1071
www.towncentermd.com



Utopia Short Still Available to View

by Dee Vida

When settling in for a winter’s evening, there’s still a chance to watch one of the 2024 Utopia Film Festival’s favorites from the comfort of home. The film Festival to Support Ukraine is available at youtu.be/JAYY1VTqAPw. The subject is close to the heart of Greenbelt filmmaker Frank Gervasi, who works with Ukrainian refugees in Greenbelt.

The short documentary showcases Ukraine’s diverse talent at the annual Washington Ukrainian Festival at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Silver Spring. The film starts with a student attending the festival, with scenes reflecting Ukrainian culture through music, dance and other creative arts. Short clips highlight

the Ukrainian Dance Program at Bethesda’s D.C. Music Academy, and a group in white dresses with flower crowns singing To Give Us a Little More Love in Our Hearts.

The turmoil of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict creates an especially strong need for Ukrainians to share their culture with other areas of the world and for Ukrainians to bond with one another over customs and traditions. The documentary also shows the negative impact of war, with images of the injured and a call to assist the military, appreciating assistance already provided and requesting donations to continue helping them to victory. More information is at standrewuoc.org.

ERHS continued from page 7

Briggs said.

Fostering that strong teacher/parent relationship has been difficult coming out of the pandemic when everything was handled remotely. The Family Institute, designed to support parents of students in the county, aims to assist families in supporting their children’s academic success.

The institute acknowledges that working parents cannot meet during traditional school hours and provides alternatives, Briggs said, adding that many of the Family Institute opportunities that exist are after hours – and a lot of them are virtual.

PGCPS has taken a number

of steps to recruit more teachers, including getting college students interested in teaching and incentives for teachers such as increased base pay, Briggs said.

Gleason also noted that the school itself provides a variety of options for students who need additional support. New after-school study sessions led by teachers and student/teacher one-on-one meetings are a part of those support systems, he added.

For Seyler, helping students who are at a disadvantage is what teachers do. “That’s part of our job to address that gap, so we’re mindful of it and attempting to reach students.”

EMS continued from page 8

better support the Greenbelt area, Green told the News Review in December. These moves seem to reflect working within the constraints of chronic understaffing.

At a November Prince George’s County Council hearing, Green described PGFD as “resource constrained,” with ALS units significantly understaffed and BLS nearly as challenged. In December she told the News Review the department couldn’t staff both Laurel fire stations 810 and 849 so they are staffing only 810. (See November 21 and December 12 issues.)

The new Greenbelt ambulance and Bowie peak demand ambulance rely on overtime staffing by personnel who choose the overtime shifts and pay, causing less personnel impact than mandatory overtime but still with a financial cost. Funding and staff-

ing constraints like these are a nationwide problem.

Prince George’s County Councilmember Eric Olson said in September that the county council increased funding across two years for PGFD career staff. Green said in November the department needs 1,224 personnel to be fully staffed, was budgeted for 1,142 personnel, had 1,004 sworn employees and has the region’s lowest starting salary of \$54,000. As of November, for calendar year 2024 the department had lost 66 sworn employees and after adding recruits had a net gain of one employee, prior to the December graduates.

The December changes followed reassessment of PGFD staffing, service delivery and response performance. Doubleday said the next reassessment will occur in 60 days.

Realty 1, Inc.

Our 38th Year in Greenbelt

301 982-0044


R1MD.com




Leonard Wallace
Broker and President

301-675-9036

The Leader in
Greenbelt Real Estate
Since 1986





Brick Townhome on Corner Lot 11'x17' Master bedroom. New laminate flooring on both levels; remodeled. Large fenced yard with front patio.

Coming Soon GHI 2-bedroom townhome with extra half-bath. Remodeled with refinished hardwood flooring. Large fenced yard that backs to woods.

Need to reach us right away?
Text 'Greenbelt' to 88000 on your cell phone and get an instant response! We can show you any listing in Greenbelt.



Scan here with your cell phone and go directly to our website! Search all of the MLS and more.



3 Bedroom Towhome Large, fenced backyard that opens onto protected woodland. Remodeled top to bottom, opened kitchen & more.



Single Level Living One bedroom GHI home on nice corner lot. New washer/dryer. Freshly painted throughout - No stairs!



Large Addition With Full Bathroom Fenced lot adjacent to woodlands. Extra living space on the main level with shower bath. Coming soon!



Upper Level 1 Bedroom GHI Home Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Remodeled kitchen. Full-sized washer/dryer in separate laundry room.

Your Greenbelt Specialists
In Roosevelt Center
Since 1986

Letters cont'd from p.2

Roberts chooses how he speaks to staff. He could have chosen to respectfully ask if they’d considered alternatives to purchasing new vehicles, like repairing current ones. In that questioning, perhaps he would have learned whether it’s reasonable to redirect staff to perform heavy engine overhauls instead of delivering city services to residents. In a public meeting, Roberts essentially said police and Public Works staff are dumb

and unable to learn. This was not the first time. He could choose a constructive approach. Listening and asking questions shows good leadership.


Regardless, city staff should not have to endure rude leaders who intentionally create a corrosive culture. I see the recent rebuke as the latest in a long line of attempts to improve the quality and effectiveness of council members’ leadership of our city.

Johanna Goderre

RICHARD K. GEHRING, HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST IN REMODELING & REPAIRS

CARPENTRY – DRYWALL – PAINTING
KITCHENS – BATHROOMS
SIDING – WINDOWS – DOORS – DECKS
LICENSED – INSURED – LEAD PAINT CERTIFIED
MHIC #84145
PHONE 301-448-8703

Donald V. Borgwardt
FUNERAL HOME, P.A.



Pre-Need Counseling
By Appointment

Family owned
and operated

4400 Powder Mill Rd.
Beltsville, Md. 20705-2751
(301) 937-1707
www.borgwardtfuneralhome.com

Traditional Funerals Monuments Cremation Service

Randy Chow is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the News Review.

S&A Plumbing Service Inc.

24/7 plumbing service needs
Garbage disposal, dishwasher
Leak, clog, faucets, etc.
Please call me.
Independent and local.
Prices reasonable.
Give me a call 240 988 8908
Time bank members receive
“great discounts”

ACC Carpets

Retail at Wholesale prices
We have over 10,000 yds.
of carpet in stock for
immediate installation.
Vinyl flooring, wood,
custom cutting and
binding available

10220 Southard Drive
Beltsville, MD
(right next to Costco)

10% discount with this Ad
410-490-1836
Installed by the Holidays!

LAW OFFICES OF
PATRICK J. McANDREW, LLC.



Personal Injury (Auto Accidents/Slip & Fall), Estate Planning & Administration, Civil, Criminal, Traffic Matters, and DUI

6305 Ivy Lane, Suite 408, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-220-3111

 Trusted and Innovative
WELLNESS CLINIC

Mental Health | Obesity | Diabetes | Nutrition | Primary Care

...we are here for your care

 taicare4u (301) 263-3845 taicare.com

 8751 Greenbelt Rd, #102 Greenbelt, MD 20770 Your Wellness = Your Wealth



MELANIE CANTWELL
— Long and Foster Real Estate —
MELANIE CANTWELL, REALTOR
C: 240-470-5911 / O: 301-441-9511
MELANIE.CANTWELL@LNF.COM



Have questions about buying or sell your home? Call me!



VISIT: WWW.LONGANDFOSTER.COM/MELANIECANTWELL
9094 BALTIMORE AVENUE, COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740

Snow Days in Greenbelt



PHOTO BY BHAMENEY FISHBECK

Neighbors help neighbors with snow shoveling at 10 Court Plateau Place.



PHOTO BY JOELLEN SARFF

Holly in the snow



PHOTO BY JOELLEN SARFF

Roosevelt Center in the snow



PHOTO BY PETER TEUBEN

People, dogs and GHI road clearing crews are up early - but leave their tracks in the snow for those who follow later.



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

The Community Center and News Review office on Monday, January 6. The paper held its regular hours on Monday and Tuesday thanks to our dedicated team.



PHOTO BY PETER TEUBEN

Fresh snow for sledding, toward the tunnel near the center



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE DORAN

Jay Evans, left, and Tom Zeller both took to their cross-country skis on January 7 at the Buddy Attick trail. Evans pronounced conditions to be "better than Colorado" and Zeller said he'd brought his skis with him from Munich, Germany, 30 years ago.



PHOTO BY GARY M. BROWN

The great blue heron stands at attention amid the snow and ice at Greenbelt Lake.



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

Frozen ripples on the lake



PHOTO BY KATRINA BOVERMAN

All hunkered down and ready for the snow in center city Greenbelt

New Year in Roosevelt Center



With Mayor Emmett Jordan, Councilmember Jenni Pompei and City Manager Josué Salmerón (and family) in attendance, Greenbelters embraced the chilly wind of the January 1 evening and celebrated the last night of Chanukah and Kwanzaa with food, song, dreidel spinning and good cheer. The event was created and led by Robert Goldberg-Strassler.



Velma Kahn lights the menorah candles.

- Photos by Aileen Kroll